

**NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE MANUAL 50-1115**  
**OCTOBER 3, 2003**

***Safety and Environmental***

***OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH***

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**NOTICE:** This publication is available at: <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/directives/>

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**Certified by:** W/OPS1 (M. Paese)

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**SUMMARY OF REVISIONS:** This procedural directive supersedes NWSM 50-1115 dated September 4, 2002. The following revisions were made:

- (1) Section 1, Fall Protection: Made editorial changes to the checklist. Requirement to train safety observer in First Aid/CPR was added to paragraph 1.3.2(c).
- (2) Section 2, Working Alone: Corrected references in the checklist. Added a requirement for First Aid/CPR training of safety observer to paragraphs 2.3.2 and 2.3.5.
- (3) Section 3, Safe Electrical Work Practices: Made an editorial change and corrected reference in the checklist. Added a requirement for First Aid/CPR training of safety observer to paragraphs 3.2 and 3.3.21(b)(3). Expanded paragraph 3.3.11 to address safety requirements related to use of portable electric equipment. Added a note to 3.3.11a describing restrictions for use of extension cords and multiple outlet assemblies. Removed requirement to measure a ground current in paragraph 3.3.11(o). Clarified requirements on self-testing of GFCI devices in paragraph 3.3.19(d).
- (4) Section 15, Battery Charging and Storage Operations: Added clarification on inspection of UPS batteries in paragraph 15.3.5.
- (5) Section 16, Flammable and Combustible Liquid Storage: Clarified flammable and combustible liquids storage requirements in paragraph 16.3.1(d).
- (6) Section 18, Accident/Illness Reporting and Recording: Made editorial changes to the checklist. Clarified safety hazard reporting requirements in paragraphs 18.3.3(c) and 18.5.5(f). Updated information on recording, reporting and investigation of injuries/illnesses in paragraphs 18.3.4 and 18.3.5. Updated Regional Environmental/Safety Coordinator, station manager, safety focal point, supervisor and employee responsibilities in paragraphs 18.5.2, 18.5.3, 18.5.4, and 18.5.5. Revised information about OSHA log requirements and included a new address for submitting DOC forms in Attachment H.

(7) Section 19, Hand and Power Tool Safety: Added paragraph 19.3.8 describing lawn mower safety requirements.

(8) Section 23, Emergency Response Agreements: Revised paragraph 23.1 to state that ERAs are highly recommended.

(9) Section 30, Office Safety: Clarified safety requirements for electrical heaters in 30.3.16. Updated the responsibilities section with NOAA-mandated monthly safety inspection requirement.

(10) Section 32, Motor Vehicle Safety: Updated general rules paragraph 32.3.1(f) by adding a list of emergency equipment in case of vehicle break down. Made editorial changes to Attachment A, Vehicle Inspection Checklist.

(11) Sections 1-32: In each responsibilities section, updated the reference to and added a web link for NWS policy directive PD 50-11, Occupational Safety and Health.

Pen & Ink Changes are published on OPS1 web site:

[http://www.ops1.nws.noaa.gov/SAFETY/Safety\\_manual.htm](http://www.ops1.nws.noaa.gov/SAFETY/Safety_manual.htm).

Signed by

September 12, 2003

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John McNulty, Jr.  
Director, Office of  
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Date

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